

since 1851, and we have no returns. There is no normal school. Average length of schools, 6 months.

The permanent school fund of Massachusetts is \$1,602,597 02, the interest of which is annually divided among such towns and cities as raise \$1 50 for each person between 5 and 15 years of age. The amount of taxes raised for support of schools in 1855, was \$1,137,407 76—total amount expended, \$1,266,436 42. Total white population 985,450. There is a board of education, whose secretary is the State superintendent. There are four normal schools, at an expense of \$14,500 per annum. Boston has one at its own charge. There are also eleven teacher's institutes, numerous county associations and a State teacher's association. Length of schools, 7 months and 16 days.

The common school system of Rhode Island was not thoroughly organized till 1851. There was expended for public instruction in 1855, \$154,614 40, partly from taxes and partly from permanent fund. Total white population, 143,875. There is a State normal school; also, a State institute for teachers.

Connecticut has a permanent fund of nearly \$3,000,000, yielding \$150,000 per annum. In addition to this the State raised by taxes in 1855, \$83,732 37—making, with other items of income, total expenditure for schools, \$342,049 37. Total white population 363,099. There is a State superintendent. There is also a State normal school. In 1855, eight teacher's institutes were held, with 755 teachers. To Massachusetts is due the credit of having established the first normal school on this side of the Atlantic, at Lexington, in 1839; and to Connecticut is due the credit of having originated teacher's institutes at Hartford, the same year. These institutes, though their sessions are necessarily of brief duration, are designed to teach the theory and art of teaching; and they have been of signal service in all the States that have tried them.

The great State of New York began to create a fund for common schools in 1795. Fifty thousand dollars were voted annually from the treasury for five years; and the towns